



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 6819

LCO No. 3755

03755_____PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH CARE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 19a-88b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

3 (a) (1) Notwithstanding section 19a-14 or any other [provisions]
4 provision of the general statutes relating to continuing education or
5 refresher training, the Department of Public Health shall renew a
6 license, certificate, permit or registration issued to an individual
7 pursuant to chapters 368d, 368v, 370 to 378, inclusive, 379a to 388,
8 inclusive, 393a, 395, 398, 399, 400a and 400c [which] that becomes void
9 pursuant to section 19a-88 or 19a-195b while the holder [thereof] of the
10 license, certificate, permit or registration is on active duty in the armed
11 forces of the United States, [within] not later than six months from the
12 date of discharge from active duty, upon completion of any continuing
13 education or refresher training required to renew a license, certificate,
14 registration or permit [which] that has not become void pursuant to
15 section 19a-88 or 19a-195b. A licensee applying for license renewal
16 pursuant to this section shall submit an application on a form
17 prescribed by the department and other such documentation as may

18 be required by the department.

19 (2) Notwithstanding section 19a-14 or any other provision of the
20 general statutes relating to continuing education, the Department of
21 Public Health shall renew a license issued to an individual pursuant to
22 chapter 379 that becomes void pursuant to section 19a-88 while the
23 holder of the license is on active duty in the armed forces of the United
24 States, not later than one year from the date of discharge from active
25 duty, upon completion of twelve contact hours of continuing
26 education that meet the criteria set forth in subsection (b) of section 10
27 of this act. A licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to this
28 subdivision shall submit an application on a form prescribed by the
29 department and other such documentation as may be required by the
30 department.

31 (b) The provisions of this section [shall] do not apply to reservists or
32 National Guard members on active duty for annual training that is a
33 regularly scheduled obligation for reservists or members of the
34 National Guard for training [which] that is not a part of mobilization.

35 (c) No license shall be issued under this section to any applicant
36 against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the
37 subject of an unresolved complaint.

38 Sec. 2. Section 20-123 of the general statutes is repealed and the
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

40 [Any person who owns or carries on a dental practice or business,
41 or who, by himself or by his servants or agents or by contract with
42 others, performs any operation in or makes examination of, with intent
43 of performing or causing to be performed any operation in, the mouth
44 and surrounding and associated structures, or who describes himself
45 by the word "Dentist" or letters "D.D.S." or "D.M.D.", or in other words,
46 letters or title in connection with his name which in any way
47 represents such person as engaged in the practice of dentistry, or who
48 diagnoses or treats diseases or lesions of the mouth and surrounding

49 and associated structures, replaces lost teeth by artificial ones, attempts
50 to diagnose or correct malposition thereof, or who, directly or
51 indirectly, by any means or method, furnishes, supplies, constructs,
52 reproduces or repairs any prosthetic denture, bridge, appliance or any
53 other structure to be worn in the human mouth, except upon the
54 written direction of a licensed dentist, or who places such appliance or
55 structure in the human mouth or attempts to adjust the same, or
56 delivers the same to any person other than the dentist upon whose
57 direction the work was performed, or who sells or distributes
58 materials, except to a licensed dentist, dental laboratory or dental
59 supply house, with instructions for an individual to construct, repair,
60 reproduce or duplicate any prosthetic denture, bridge, appliance or
61 any other structure to be worn in the human mouth, or who advertises
62 to the public, by any method, to furnish, supply, construct, reproduce
63 or repair any prosthetic denture, bridge, appliance or other structure to
64 be worn in the human mouth, or gives estimates on the cost of
65 treatment, or who advertises or permits it to be done by sign, card,
66 circular, handbill or newspaper, or otherwise indicates that he, by
67 contract with others or by himself, will perform any of such
68 operations, shall be deemed as practicing dentistry or dental medicine
69 within the meaning of this chapter. Any person who, in practicing
70 dentistry or dental medicine, as defined in this section, employs or
71 permits any other person except a licensed dentist to so practice
72 dentistry or dental medicine shall be subject to the penalties provided
73 in section 20-126. The provisions of this chapter shall not prevent any
74 practicing physician or surgeon from treating lesions or diseases of the
75 mouth and jaws or from extracting teeth. No provision of this section
76 shall be construed to prevent regularly enrolled students in dental
77 schools approved as provided in this chapter or medical schools
78 approved as provided in chapter 370 from receiving practical training
79 in dentistry under the supervision of a licensed dentist or physician in
80 a dental or medical school in this state or in any hospital, infirmary,
81 clinic or dispensary affiliated with such school; or to prevent a person
82 who holds the degree of doctor of dental medicine or doctor of dental

83 surgery or its equivalent and who has been issued a permit in
84 accordance with section 20-126b from receiving practical training
85 under the supervision of a licensed dentist or physician in an advanced
86 dental education program conducted by a dental or medical school in
87 this state or by a hospital operated by the federal government or
88 licensed pursuant to subsection (a) of section 19a-491; or to prevent
89 any regularly enrolled student in or graduate of an accredited school
90 of dental hygiene from receiving practical training in dental hygiene
91 under the supervision of a Connecticut licensed dentist or a
92 Connecticut licensed dental hygienist in any approved school of dental
93 hygiene in the state or in any hospital, infirmary, clinic or dispensary
94 affiliated with such school or to prevent controlled investigations or
95 innovative training programs related to the delivery of dental health
96 services within accredited dental schools or schools of dental hygiene,
97 provided such programs are under the supervision of a licensed
98 dentist or physician and are conducted within a program which is
99 accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation or such other
100 national professional accrediting body as may be recognized by the
101 United States Department of Education.]

102 (a) No person shall engage in the practice of dentistry unless he or
103 she is licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. The practice
104 of dentistry or dental medicine is defined as the diagnosis, evaluation,
105 prevention or treatment by surgical or other means, of an injury,
106 deformity, disease or condition of the oral cavity or its contents, or the
107 jaws or the associated structures of the jaws. The practice of dentistry
108 does not include: (1) The treatment of dermatologic diseases or
109 disorders of the skin or face; (2) the performance of microvascular free
110 tissue transfer; (3) the treatment of diseases or disorders of the eye; (4)
111 ocular procedures; (5) the performance of cosmetic surgery or other
112 cosmetic procedures other than those related to the oral cavity, its
113 contents, or the jaws; or (6) nasal or sinus surgery, other than that
114 related to the oral cavity, its contents or the jaws.

115 (b) No person other than a person licensed to practice dentistry

116 under this chapter shall:

117 (1) Describe himself or herself by the word "Dentist" or letters
118 "D.D.S." or "D.M.D.", or in other words, letters or title in connection
119 with his or her name which in any way represents such person as
120 engaged in the practice of dentistry;

121 (2) Own or carry on a dental practice or business;

122 (3) Replace lost teeth by artificial ones, or attempt to diagnose or
123 correct malpositioned teeth;

124 (4) Directly or indirectly, by any means or method, furnish, supply,
125 construct, reproduce or repair any prosthetic denture, bridge,
126 appliance or any other structure to be worn in a person's mouth,
127 except upon the written direction of a licensed dentist, or place such
128 appliance or structure in a person's mouth or attempt to adjust such
129 appliance or structure in a person's mouth, or deliver such appliance
130 or structure to any person other than the dentist upon whose direction
131 the work was performed;

132 (5) Sell or distribute materials, except to a licensed dentist, dental
133 laboratory or dental supply house, with instructions for an individual
134 to construct, repair, reproduce or duplicate any prosthetic denture,
135 bridge, appliance or any other structure to be worn in a person's
136 mouth;

137 (6) Advertise to the public, by any method, to furnish, supply,
138 construct, reproduce or repair any prosthetic denture, bridge,
139 appliance or other structure to be worn in a person's mouth;

140 (7) Give estimates of the cost of dental treatment; or

141 (8) Advertise or permit it to be advertised by sign, card, circular,
142 handbill or newspaper, or otherwise indicate that such person, by
143 contract with others or by himself or herself, will perform any of the
144 functions specified in subdivisions (1) to (7), inclusive, of this

145 subsection.

146 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
147 a person who is licensed to practice dentistry under this chapter, who
148 has successfully completed a postdoctoral training program that is
149 accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation or its successor
150 organization, in the specialty area of dentistry in which such person
151 practices may: (1) Diagnose, evaluate, prevent or treat by surgical or
152 other means, injuries, deformities, diseases or conditions of the hard
153 and soft tissues of the oral and maxillofacial area, or its adjacent or
154 associated structures; and (2) perform any of the following procedures,
155 provided the dentist has been granted hospital privileges to perform
156 such procedures: (A) Surgical treatment of sleep apnea involving the
157 jaws; (B) salivary gland surgery; (C) the harvesting of donor tissue; (D)
158 frontal and orbital surgery; and (D) nasoethmoid procedures to the
159 extent that such procedures are associated with trauma.

160 (d) Any person who, in practicing dentistry or dental medicine, as
161 defined in this section, employs or permits any other person except a
162 licensed dentist to so practice dentistry or dental medicine shall be
163 subject to the penalties provided in section 20-126.

164 (e) The provisions of this section do not apply to:

165 (1) Any practicing physician or surgeon who is licensed in
166 accordance with chapter 370;

167 (2) Any regularly enrolled student in a dental school approved as
168 provided in this chapter or a medical school approved as provided in
169 chapter 370 receiving practical training in dentistry under the
170 supervision of a licensed dentist or physician in a dental or medical
171 school in this state or in any hospital, infirmary, clinic or dispensary
172 affiliated with such school;

173 (3) A person who holds the degree of doctor of dental medicine or
174 doctor of dental surgery or its equivalent and who has been issued a

175 permit in accordance with section 20-126b and who is receiving
176 practical training under the supervision of a licensed dentist or
177 physician in an advanced dental education program conducted by a
178 dental or medical school in this state or by a hospital operated by the
179 federal government or licensed pursuant to subsection (a) of section
180 19a-491.

181 (4) Any regularly enrolled student in or graduate of an accredited
182 school of dental hygiene who is receiving practical training in dental
183 hygiene in an approved school of dental hygiene in the state or in any
184 hospital, infirmary, clinic or dispensary affiliated with such school,
185 under the supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to this chapter or
186 a dental hygienist licensed pursuant to chapter 379a; or

187 (5) Controlled investigations or innovative training programs
188 related to the delivery of dental health services within accredited
189 dental schools or schools of dental hygiene, provided such programs
190 are (A) under the supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter
191 379 or physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370, and (B) conducted
192 within a program accredited by the Commission on Dental
193 Accreditation or such other national professional accrediting body as
194 may be recognized by the United States Department of Education.

195 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 20-74ee of the general statutes is
196 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
197 *October 1, 2005*):

198 (a) (1) Nothing in subsection (c) of section 19a-14, sections 20-74aa to
199 20-74cc, inclusive, and this section shall be construed to require
200 licensure as a radiographer or to limit the activities of a physician
201 licensed pursuant to chapter 370, a chiropractor licensed pursuant to
202 chapter 372, a natureopath licensed pursuant to chapter 373, a
203 podiatrist licensed pursuant to chapter 375, a dentist licensed pursuant
204 to chapter 379 or a veterinarian licensed pursuant to chapter 384.

205 (2) Nothing in subsection (c) of section 19a-14, sections 20-74aa to

206 20-74cc, inclusive, and this section shall be construed to require
207 licensure as a radiographer or to limit the activities of a dental
208 hygienist licensed pursuant to chapter [379] 379a, provided [that] such
209 dental hygienist is engaged in the taking of dental x-rays under the
210 general supervision of a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 379.

211 (3) Nothing in subsection (c) of section 19a-14, sections 20-74aa to
212 20-74cc, inclusive, and this section shall be construed to require
213 licensure as a radiographer or to limit the activities of a dental assistant
214 as defined in section 20-112a, provided such dental assistant is
215 engaged in the taking of dental x-rays under the supervision and
216 control of a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 379 and can
217 demonstrate [by January 1, 1996,] successful completion of the dental
218 radiography portion of an examination prescribed by the Dental
219 Assisting National Board.

220 (4) Nothing in subsection (c) of section 19a-14, sections 20-74aa to
221 20-74cc, inclusive, and this section shall be construed to require
222 licensure as a radiographer or to limit the activities of a Nuclear
223 Medicine Technologist certified by the Nuclear Medicine Technology
224 Certification Board or the American Registry of Radiologic
225 Technologists, provided such individual is engaged in the operation of
226 a bone densitometry system under the supervision, control and
227 responsibility of a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370.

228 (5) Nothing in subsection (c) of section 19a-14, sections 20-74aa to
229 20-74cc, inclusive, and this section shall be construed to require
230 licensure as a radiographer or to limit the activities of a podiatric
231 medical assistant, provided such podiatric assistant is engaged in
232 taking of podiatric x-rays under the supervision and control of a
233 podiatrist licensed pursuant to chapter 375 and can demonstrate
234 successful completion of the podiatric radiography exam as prescribed
235 by the Connecticut Board of Podiatry Examiners.

236 Sec. 4. Section 20-107 of the general statutes is repealed and the
237 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

238 (a) Each application for [such] a license to practice dentistry shall be
239 in writing and signed by the applicant and no license shall be issued to
240 any person unless he or she presents a diploma or other certificate of
241 graduation from some reputable dental college or from a department
242 of dentistry of a medical college conferring a dental degree, or unless
243 he or she is practicing as a legally qualified dentist in another state
244 having requirements for admission determined by the department to
245 be similar to or higher than the requirements of this state.

246 (b) The Dental Commission [is authorized] may, with the consent of
247 the Commissioner of Public Health, [to] determine the colleges which
248 shall be considered reputable dental or medical colleges for the
249 purposes of this chapter. The commission shall consult [where] when
250 possible with nationally recognized accrediting agencies when making
251 such determinations.

252 (c) Each applicant for such license shall also present a certificate
253 from the State Board of Education that [he] the applicant has
254 completed a four-year course at an approved high school, or has an
255 equivalent academic education, [but] except that this requirement
256 [shall] does not apply to an applicant who is practicing as a legally
257 qualified dentist in another state [as above provided] having
258 requirements for admission determined by the department to be
259 similar to or higher than the requirements of this state.

260 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) to (c),
261 inclusive, of this section, the department may issue a license to practice
262 dentistry to any applicant holding a diploma from a foreign dental
263 school, provided the applicant (1) is a graduate of a dental school
264 located outside the United States and has received the degree of doctor
265 of dental medicine or surgery, or its equivalent; (2) has passed the
266 written examination required in section 20-108; (3) has successfully
267 completed not less than two years of graduate dental training as a
268 resident dentist in a program accredited by the Commission on Dental
269 Accreditation; (4) has successfully completed, at a level greater than

270 the second postgraduate year, not less than two years of a residency or
271 fellowship training program accredited by the Commission on Dental
272 Accreditation in a community or school-based health center affiliated
273 with and under the supervision of a school of dentistry in this state, or
274 has served as a full-time faculty member of a school of dentistry in this
275 state pursuant to the provisions of section 20-120.

276 Sec. 5. Section 20-112a of the general statutes is repealed and the
277 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

278 A licensed dentist may delegate to dental assistants such dental
279 procedures as [he] the dentist may deem advisable, including the
280 taking of dental x-rays if the dental assistant can demonstrate
281 successful completion of the dental radiography portion of an
282 examination prescribed by the Dental Assisting National Board, but
283 such procedures shall be performed under [his] the dentist's
284 supervision and control and [he] the dentist shall assume
285 responsibility for such procedures; provided such assistants may not
286 engage in: (1) Diagnosis for dental procedures or dental treatment; (2)
287 the cutting or removal of any hard or soft tissue or suturing; (3) the
288 prescribing of drugs or medications [which] that require the written or
289 oral order of a licensed dentist or physician; (4) the administration of
290 local, parenteral, inhalation or general anesthetic agents in connection
291 with any dental operative procedure; (5) the taking of any impression
292 of the teeth or jaws or the relationship of the teeth or jaws for the
293 purpose of fabricating any appliance or prosthesis; (6) the placing,
294 finishing and adjustment of temporary or final restorations, capping
295 materials and cement bases; or (7) the practice of dental hygiene as
296 defined in section 20-126l, as amended by this act.

297 Sec. 6. Section 20-126l of the general statutes is repealed and the
298 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

299 (a) As used in this section:

300 (1) "General supervision of a licensed dentist" means supervision

301 that authorizes dental hygiene procedures to be performed with the
302 knowledge of said licensed dentist, whether or not the dentist is on the
303 premises when such procedures are being performed;

304 (2) "Public health facility" means an institution, as defined in section
305 19a-490, a community health center, a group home, a school, a
306 preschool operated by a local or regional board of education or a head
307 start program; and

308 (3) The "practice of dental hygiene" means the performance of
309 educational, preventive and therapeutic services including: Complete
310 prophylaxis; the removal of calcerous deposits, accretions and stains
311 from the supragingival and subgingival surfaces of the teeth by
312 scaling, root planing and polishing; the application of pit and fissure
313 sealants and topical solutions to exposed portions of the teeth; dental
314 hygiene examinations and the charting of oral conditions; dental
315 hygiene assessment, treatment planning and evaluation; the
316 administration of local anesthesia in accordance with the provisions of
317 subsection (d) of this section; and collaboration in the implementation
318 of the oral health care regimen.

319 (b) No person shall engage in the practice of dental hygiene unless
320 such person (1) has a dental hygiene license issued by the Department
321 of Public Health and (A) is practicing under the general supervision of
322 a licensed dentist, or (B) has been practicing as a licensed dental
323 hygienist for at least two years, is practicing in a public health facility
324 and complies with the requirements of subsection (e) of this section, or
325 (2) has a dental license.

326 (c) A dental hygienist licensed under sections 20-126h to 20-126w,
327 inclusive, shall be known as a "dental hygienist" and no other person
328 shall assume such title or use the abbreviation "R.D.H." or any other
329 words, letters or figures which indicate that the person using such
330 words, letters or figures is a licensed dental hygienist. Any person who
331 employs or permits any other person except a licensed dental hygienist
332 to practice dental hygiene shall be subject to the penalties provided in

333 section 20-126t. Licensed dental hygienists may provide dental hygiene
334 services in any office of a licensed dentist or in any public or private
335 institution or in any convalescent home under the general supervision
336 of a licensed dentist.

337 (d) A licensed dental hygienist may administer local anesthesia,
338 limited to local infiltration anesthesia to the lower jaw and mandibular
339 nerve blocks, under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist,
340 provided the dental hygienist can demonstrate successful completion
341 of a course of instruction containing basic and current concepts of local
342 anesthesia and pain control in a program accredited by the
343 Commission on Dental Accreditation, or its successor organization,
344 that includes: (1) Twenty hours of didactic training, including, but not
345 limited to, the psychology of pain management; a review of anatomy,
346 physiology, pharmacology of anesthetic agents, emergency
347 precautions and management, and client management; instruction on
348 the safe and effective administration of anesthetic agents; and (2) eight
349 hours of clinical training which includes the direct observation of the
350 performance of procedures. For purposes of this subsection, "indirect
351 supervision" means a licensed dentist authorizes and prescribes the
352 use of local anesthesia for a patient and remains in the dental office or
353 other location where the services are being performed by the dental
354 hygienist.

355 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) A licensed dental hygienist shall [in no event] not perform
356 the following dental services: (1) Diagnosis for dental procedures or
357 dental treatment; (2) the cutting or removal of any hard or soft tissue
358 or suturing; (3) the prescribing of drugs or medication which require
359 the written or oral order of a licensed dentist or physician; (4) the
360 administration of local, parenteral, inhalation or general anesthetic
361 agents in connection with any dental operative procedure; (5) the
362 taking of any impression of the teeth or jaws or the relationship of the
363 teeth or jaws for the purpose of fabricating any appliance or prosthesis;
364 (6) the placing, finishing and adjustment of temporary or final
365 restorations, capping materials and cement bases.

366 [(e)] (f) Each dental hygienist practicing in a public health facility
367 shall (1) refer for treatment any patient with needs outside the dental
368 hygienist's scope of practice, and (2) coordinate such referral for
369 treatment to dentists licensed pursuant to chapter 379.

370 [(f)] (g) All licensed dental hygienists applying for license renewal
371 shall be required to participate in continuing education programs. The
372 commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the
373 provisions of chapter 54 to: (1) Define basic requirements for
374 continuing education programs, (2) delineate qualifying programs, (3)
375 establish a system of control and reporting, and (4) provide for waiver
376 of the continuing education requirement by the commissioner for good
377 cause.

378 Sec. 7. Section 20-113b of the general statutes is repealed and the
379 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

380 Any person who practices dentistry for no fee, for at least one
381 hundred hours per year at a public health facility, as defined in section
382 20-126l, as amended by this act, and does not otherwise engage in the
383 practice of dentistry, shall be eligible to renew a license, as provided in
384 subsection (a) of section 19a-88, [for a fee of one hundred dollars]
385 without payment of the professional services fee specified in said
386 subsection (a).

387 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 20-114 of the general statutes is
388 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
389 *October 1, 2005*):

390 (a) The Dental Commission may take any of the actions set forth in
391 section 19a-17 for any of the following causes: (1) The presentation to
392 the department of any diploma, license or certificate illegally or
393 fraudulently obtained, or obtained from an institution that is not
394 reputable or from an unrecognized or irregular institution or state
395 board, or obtained by the practice of any fraud or deception; (2) proof
396 that a practitioner has become unfit or incompetent or has been guilty

397 of cruelty, incompetence, negligence or indecent conduct toward
 398 patients; (3) conviction of the violation of any of the provisions of this
 399 chapter by any court of criminal jurisdiction, provided no action shall
 400 be taken under section 19a-17 because of such conviction if any appeal
 401 to a higher court has been filed until the appeal has been determined
 402 by the higher court and the conviction sustained; (4) the employment
 403 of any unlicensed person for other than mechanical purposes in the
 404 practice of dental medicine or dental surgery subject to the provisions
 405 of section 20-122a; (5) the violation of any of the provisions of this
 406 chapter or of the regulations adopted hereunder or the refusal to
 407 comply with any of said provisions or regulations; (6) the aiding or
 408 abetting in the practice of dentistry, dental medicine or dental hygiene
 409 of a person not licensed to practice dentistry, dental medicine or dental
 410 hygiene in this state; (7) designating a limited practice, except as
 411 provided in section 20-106a; (8) engaging in fraud or material
 412 deception in the course of professional activities; (9) the effects of
 413 physical or mental illness, emotional disorder or loss of motor skill,
 414 including but not limited to, deterioration through the aging process,
 415 upon the license holder; (10) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including
 416 alcohol, narcotics or chemicals; [or] (11) failure to comply with the
 417 continuing education requirements set forth in section 10 of this act; or
 418 (12) failure of a holder of a dental anesthesia or conscious sedation
 419 permit to successfully complete an on-site evaluation conducted
 420 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 20-123b. A violation of any of the
 421 provisions of this chapter by any unlicensed employee in the practice
 422 of dentistry or dental hygiene, with the knowledge of [his] the
 423 employer, shall be deemed a violation [thereof] by [his] the employer.
 424 The Commissioner of Public Health may order a license holder to
 425 submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his or her
 426 physical or mental capacity to practice safely is the subject of an
 427 investigation. Said commissioner may petition the superior court for
 428 the judicial district of Hartford to enforce such order or any action
 429 taken pursuant to section 19a-17.

430 Sec. 9. Section 20-126i of the general statutes is repealed and the

431 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2005*):

432 (a) Each application for a license to practice dental hygiene shall be
433 in writing and signed by the applicant and accompanied by
434 satisfactory proof that such person has received a diploma or
435 certificate of graduation from a dental hygiene program with a
436 minimum of two academic years of curriculum provided in a college
437 or institution of higher education the program of which is accredited
438 by the Commission on Dental Accreditation or such other national
439 professional accrediting body as may be recognized by the United
440 States Department of Education, and a fee of seventy-five dollars.

441 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
442 each application for a license to practice dental hygiene from an
443 applicant who holds a diploma from a foreign dental school shall be in
444 writing and signed by the applicant and accompanied by satisfactory
445 proof that such person has (1) graduated from a dental school located
446 outside the United States and received the degree of doctor of dental
447 medicine or surgery, or its equivalent; (2) passed the written and
448 practical examinations required in section 20-126j; and (3) enrolled in a
449 dental hygiene program in this state that is accredited by the
450 Commission on Dental Accreditation and successfully completed not
451 less than one year of clinical training in a community health center
452 affiliated with and under the supervision of such dental hygiene
453 program.

454 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) As used in this section:

455 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health;

456 (2) "Contact hour" means a minimum of fifty minutes of continuing
457 education activity;

458 (3) "Department" means the Department of Public Health;

459 (4) "Licensee" means any person who receives a license from the
460 department pursuant to chapter 379 of the general statutes; and

461 (5) "Registration period" means the one-year period for which a
462 license renewed in accordance with section 19a-88 of the general
463 statutes and is current and valid.

464 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, for registration
465 periods beginning on and after October 1, 2007, the department shall
466 not renew a license for any licensee applying for license renewal
467 pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes, unless the licensee
468 has earned a minimum of twenty-five contact hours of continuing
469 education within the preceding twenty-four-month period. Such
470 continuing education shall (1) be in an area of the licensee's practice;
471 (2) reflect the professional needs of the licensee in order to meet the
472 health care needs of the public; and (3) include at least one contact
473 hour of training or education in infectious diseases, including, but not
474 limited to, acquired immune deficiency syndrome and human
475 immunodeficiency virus, access to care, risk management, care of
476 special needs patients and domestic violence, including sexual abuse.
477 Qualifying continuing education activities include, but are not limited
478 to, courses, including on-line courses, offered or approved by the
479 American Dental Association or state, district or local dental
480 associations and societies affiliated with the American Dental
481 Association; national, state, district or local dental specialty
482 organizations or the American Academy of General Dentistry; a
483 hospital or other health care institution; dental schools and other
484 schools of higher education accredited or recognized by the Council on
485 Dental Accreditation or a regional accrediting organization; agencies
486 or businesses whose programs are accredited or recognized by the
487 Council on Dental Accreditation; or local, state or national medical
488 associations or the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical
489 Education. Eight hours of volunteer dental practice at a public health
490 facility, as defined in section 20-126/ of the general statutes, as
491 amended by this act, may be substituted for one contact hour of
492 continuing education, up to a maximum of ten contact hours in one
493 twenty-four-month period.

494 (c) Each licensee applying for license renewal pursuant to section
495 19a-88 of the general statutes shall sign a statement attesting that he or
496 she has satisfied the continuing education requirements of subsection
497 (b) of this section on a form prescribed by the department. Each
498 licensee shall retain records of attendance or certificates of completion
499 that demonstrate compliance with the continuing education
500 requirements of said subsection (b) for a minimum of three years
501 following the year in which the continuing education activities were
502 completed and shall submit such records to the department for
503 inspection not later than forty-five days after a request by the
504 department for such records.

505 (d) A licensee applying for the first time for license renewal
506 pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes is exempt from the
507 continuing education requirements of this section.

508 (e) A licensee who is not engaged in active professional practice in
509 any form during a registration period shall be exempt from the
510 continuing education requirements of this section, provided the
511 licensee submits to the department, prior to the expiration of the
512 registration period, a notarized application for exemption on a form
513 prescribed by the department and such other documentation as may
514 be required by the department. The application for exemption
515 pursuant to this subsection shall contain a statement that the licensee
516 may not engage in professional practice until the licensee has met the
517 continuing education requirements of this section.

518 (f) In individual cases involving medical disability or illness, the
519 commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion, grant a waiver of
520 the continuing education requirements or an extension of time within
521 which to fulfill the continuing education requirements of this section to
522 any licensee, provided the licensee submits to the department an
523 application for waiver or extension of time on a form prescribed by the
524 department, along with a certification by a licensed physician of the
525 disability or illness and such other documentation as may be required

526 by the commissioner. The commissioner may grant a waiver or
527 extension for a period not to exceed one registration period, except that
528 the commissioner may grant additional waivers or extensions if the
529 medical disability or illness upon which a waiver or extension is
530 granted continues beyond the period of the waiver or extension and
531 the licensee applies for an additional waiver or extension.

532 (g) The department shall renew a license issued to any licensee that
533 becomes void pursuant to section 19a-88 of the general statutes,
534 provided the licensee (1) applies to the commissioner for
535 reinstatement, and (2) submits evidence documenting successful
536 completion of twelve contact hours of continuing education within the
537 one-year period immediately preceding application for reinstatement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	19a-88b
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-123
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-74ee(a)
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-107
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-112a
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-126l
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-113b
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-114(a)
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	20-126i
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To improve access and quality of oral health care.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]